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Stranger's Peculiar Action.

A man giving the name of Mat Hautala was arrested by Officer Gammel yesterday morning for trespass. Hautala was arrested by Officer Gammel about two weeks. When one of the employees of the Waldorf saloon retired Thursday night he heard a noise in his room, and investigation disclosed the fact that a man was under the bed. He rose and called in the policeman, who took the offending party to jail, where a charge of trespass was lodged

against him. The police are of the opinion that Hautala was not bent on robbery, but are inclined to believe his story, which was to the effect that he had no place to sleep and accepted the most inviting opportunity to get in out of the weather. He will be given a chance to explain to Police Judge Anderson this afternoon. Three or four men who celebrated the advent of the new year in a boisterous manner will also be up in the police court this afternoon.

Local Brevities.

The schooner Glendale arrived yesterday from San Francisco and went to the Home mill to load lumber for the Bay city.

The high school students gave an enjoyable dancing party New Year's eve at Hanthorn's hall. There were many young people present and the function proved eminently successful.

Miss Florence Turner entertained a few friends New Year's eve. Panic was played. William Lindau capturing first prize. The party continued quite late, late enough to wish one another a happy New Year.

The big oriental liner Indrapura arrived down the river Thursday night just as the coming of the new year was being celebrated, and her deep-toned whistle added materially to the noisy demonstration. She proceeded on to the lower harbor under slow bell.

P. E. Peterson has sold the New Style chop house to Joseph Kinkella and another man. The deal was closed Thursday night, the proprietors assuming charge yesterday. Mr. Peterson has not yet decided upon his future business course, but expects to remain in the city.

A regular meeting of the water commission was held last evening at which the monthly payroll and bills were passed upon and other routine matters attended to to enable the clerk to finish the business of the year. The forthcoming annual statement will show a very considerable increase over previous years in the amount of water consumed, due principally to the steadily increasing population of the city.

The dance given at Foard & Stokes' hall New Year's eve by the Letter Carriers' Association was one of the most successful events of the kind ever held in Astoria. There were but few counter attractions and the attendance was unusually large. Excellent music had been provided and when the dancers concluded the evening's entertainment all were loud in their praise of the efficiency shown by the management.

The wedding of Walter B. Kindred and Mrs. Ina Nelly took place at 8 o'clock last evening. Rev. J. W. McCormac officiating. The ceremony was held at Mr. McCormac's home, corner of Fifteenth and Exchange streets. Mrs. Nelly is the daughter of Ed. Dyer, a well known resident of the Lewis and Clark, and her husband is the son of J. F. Kindred of Warrenton. He is employed at Satsop, Wash., and he and Mrs. Kindred left for there last evening, where they will make their home.

The British bark East African has been taken off the free list by Kerr, Gifford & Co., to load wheat for the United Kingdom. She secures a rate of 20 shillings. The East African has been in port since December 1, when she arrived with a cargo of coal from Newcastle. The chartering of this vessel leaves only the Red Rock and the Crossington on the disengaged list. The former has been here since August when she arrived with Australian coal. After discharging, her owners ordered her to lay up until the freight market improved.

The schools of the city will be reopened on next Monday morning and it is probable the attendance will be greatly reduced, on account of the epidemic of measles. The epidemic commenced just about the time the schools were closed for the Christmas holidays, and since then fully 100 cases have been reported to Health Officer Pilkington. During the past few days the number of cases has not increased materially, and it is believed the disease will soon be stamped out. The most rigid quarantine regulations are being enforced. The scarlet fever cases are all convalescent, and no danger is anticipated from this source.

A burglar who was evidently well acquainted with the premises entered William Bock's saloon at an early hour yesterday morning and got away with a small sum of money and a box of cigars. The theft was discovered when the saloon was opened for business at 6 o'clock. The burglar either hid himself in the rear of the saloon prior to the time it was closed for the night, at 1 o'clock, or else made his entrance through a rear door. He went into the bar room from the liquor room and opened the cash register, in which was \$2.40 change. After taking this money, he opened the 25-cent slot machine and secured what money was in the sack which holds the "drop." In all, he may have secured \$10. One of the rear windows had been broken, but it is unlikely the thief was responsible for this damage, as he found entrance to the saloon comparatively easy. It is believed by the police the burglar

was well acquainted with the place, and there is a suspicion that he was the man who robbed Mr. Bock's saloon in February last. There is nothing that might lead to the arrest of the man. Burglaries have been infrequent in Astoria, as the police keep a sharp lookout, and it is only at rare intervals that loss from theft is reported.

Eternal vigilance netted the police nothing in their effort to arrest some of the destructive persons who have made it a practice to deface public property on New Year's eve. This season Police Commissioner Gordon sent a note to Chief Hallock, asking him to have the patrolmen keep a close lookout for the miscreants. All the patrolmen were instructed accordingly, but, despite the fact that they gave the matter the closest attention, no arrests were made, while almost every store window in the business district was written over with soap. The mischief was wrought by boys, who have the rare faculty of dodging the police. It is conservatively estimated by members of the police force that the services of 2000 police officers would be required to prevent the defacing of property on New Year's eve.

The oriental liner Indrapura arrived down the river about midnight and departed about 11 yesterday morning for Chinese and Japanese ports. She was anchored off the city until 9 o'clock and took aboard a pilot, who proceeded over the bar with her two hours later. The departure of the big vessel was without incident of any kind, notwithstanding that she was drawing 23 feet 6 inches. The Indrapura takes a cargo of flour that has been exceeded by a Columbia river liner but once. She has on board 61,263 barrels, worth \$245,988. The greatest cargo of flour ever sent out of the Columbia was 85,176 barrels, taken by the Algon. Other merchandise on the Indrapura brought the total value of her cargo up to \$271,185. The vessel took 19 stowage passengers, of whom nearly all were deported. Four were stowaways, one being a woman.

Just as the minute hand of the clock pointed the hour of 12 Thursday night one of the large steamers moored at a centrally located dock emitted a blast that started the New Year's din. Scarcely had the sound been heard than an enthusiast fired a cannon at the corner of Eleventh and Commercial streets. Then, from every part of the city, there arose a racket that could be heard across the broad Columbia. Every boat on the waterfront lent its whistle to the din and the factories in which the boilers were warm joined in the deafening uproar. In the business sections the enthusiasts devoted their energies to cannons and firecrackers, and for 30 minutes the dawning of the new year was celebrated. About the time the noise ceased the habitual resolutionist could be seen wending homeward his unsteady way, having resolved that he would no more allow himself to be taken down where the Wurzburger flows, just as he had resolved for many years previously. The number of last-juggers was small, however, as compared with former years, and the police had little trouble.

The Clatsop Mill Company's box factory is rushed with work at the present time, and, although it is customary for the management to give the employees a holiday on such days as yesterday, the force was busily engaged. The rush is due to the California demand for fruit boxes. Business conditions in California this winter are better than ever before and the state is enjoying an era of great prosperity. The effect is felt in all lines of business, and the fruit industry is particularly active. As a rule, the winter demand for boxes is small, but this year it is decidedly good. It is stated that realty rents in San Francisco have advanced from 40 to 75 per cent during the past few months, and the influx of new people is adding impetus to the industries of the state. Conditions in the coast states are in marked contrast with those prevailing at present in the east, where hard times are causing much anxiety, especially in the large cities. But little has been made public of the adverse conditions existing in the east now, but private letters received in Astoria state that the winter will be a very severe one.

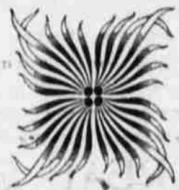
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The steamer W. H. Harrison arrived Thursday from Alsea bay, with 2700 cases of salmon for S. Elmore & Company. The consignment was worth more than \$10,000. The steamer Sue H. Elmore, arriving yesterday from Gardiner, on Umpqua river, brought 5500 cases of salmon, worth about \$22,000. Elmore & Company operated four canneries during the fall season, and the combined pack was about 30,000 cases, worth in the neighborhood of \$125,000. Canneries were opened at Tillamook, Nehalem,

Alsea bay and Umpqua river, and were under the direct supervision of W. W. Ridehalgh. Employment was afforded a large number of men and considerable money was distributed to inside employes and fishermen.

The council will meet at noon on Monday, at which time all of the newly elected officers will be sworn in. Mayor Suprenant's annual message will then be presented, and complete statements of the financial condition of the city made public.

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